

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 15245 101044Z
ACTION EA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO USIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4920
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMCONSUL SURABAYA

UNCLAS JAKARTA 15245

USIAC

USIA FOR IEA; CINCPAC FOR USIA ADVISOR; MEDAN AND SURABAYA

FOR BPAO

EO 11652: NA
SUBJ: WEEKLY REPORT

ATMOSPHERICS.

1. AFTER COUPLE DAYS DELAY BEFORE REACTING INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT AND LABOR OFFICIALS AND MEDIA EXPRESSED REGRET OVER U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM ILO. ACCORDING NEWS REPORTS FORMER FM MALIK SAID WITHDRAWAL GIVES COMMUNIST NATIONS MORE LEEWAY TO INFLUENCE ILO. INDONESIAN LABOR FEDERATION CHAIRMAN HOPED U.S. WOULD RETURN, SAYING BEST WAY IMPROVE AN ORGANIZATION IS TO STAY IN IT, ADDING THAT ILO FIGHTING FOR SAME HUMAN RIGHTS AS PRESIDENT CARTER. "KOMPAS," ONE OF JAKARTA'S TWO LEADING DAILIES, COMMENTED THAT REASONS GIVEN BY PRESIDENT CARTER WERE NOT CONVINCING AND THAT REAL MOTIVE WAS TO DEMONSTRATE U.S. CLOUT TO OTHER UN AGENCIES.

2. NEWS REPORTS QUOTING PRC DEPUTY PM LI HSIEN-NIEN AS SAYING
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PAGE 02 JAKART 15245 101044Z

PRC READY REPLY IN AFFIRMATIVE TO RENEWAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, WHENEVER SOEHARTO SAYS YES, DREW MIXED REACTION. ADAM MALIK SAID THAT IT "HIGH TIME" FOR RESTORING RELATIONS SINCE INDONESIA COULD NO LONGER ARGUE THAT ITS DOMESTIC SITUATION TOO INSECURE. ON OTHER HAND FOREIGN MINISTER AD INTERIM KUSUMAATMADJA TOLD PARLIAMENT GOI "FEELS THAT TIME NOT YET APPROPRIATE" FOR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, BUT THAT TRADE RELATIONS

WERE ANOTHER MATTER AND GOI EYEING POSSIBILITY SENDING DELEGATION T
TO CANTON TRADE FAIR.

3. BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY GIVEN MODERATE BUT GENERALLY
FAVORABLE PRESS PLAY IN SEVERAL JAKARTA PAPERS. "KOMPAS," WHILE
QUESTIONING INTENT BEHIND SOVIET MILITARY MIGHT, DECLARED REVOLUTION
HAS PLAYED ROLE IN ADVANCING "SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ... THE FATE OF
PEOPLES IN GENERAL." NATIONALISTIC "MERDEKA" SAID "WORLD IS
HARVESTING THE BENEFITS OF THE SOVIET'S UNDENIABLE ROLE IN BALANCING
OTHER WORLD POWERS" AND THAT SOVIETS HAVE MADE CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS
"FULFILLMENT OF MAN'S HOPE FOR JUSTICE AND HAPPINESS." THE DAILY
"SINAR HARAPAN" CRYPTICALLY TERMED MILITARY PARADE IN MOSCOW
"IRONIC", BUT RECALLED SOVIET SUPPORT IN EARLY STAGES INDONESIAN
INDEPENDENCE AND DURING FIGHT AGAINST DUTCH.

PROGRAM.

4. PRESS PLACEMENT DURING PAST TWO WEEKS ENCOURAGING. THE TWO
LEADING DAILIES CARRIED ALL OR MAJOR PORTIONS TEXT OF DEPASSTSEC
STATE OAKLEY'S STATEMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDONESIA MADE TO
HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE. MANY LEADING DAILIES CARRIED USIS-RELEASED
STORIES OR TEXT OF ADDRESS BY DEPASSTSECCOMMERCE MORAN TO
AMERICAN CHAMBER COMMERCE IN JAKARTA. MORAN, HERE IN CONNECTION
DINAMIKA TRADE SHOW, STRESSED MUTUAL BENEFITS OF TRADE. IPS STORY
ON AMBASSDOR MASTERS' NOMINATION HEARING GIVEN FRONT-PAGE
TREATMENT BOTH LEADING DAILIES. AMSPEC GEORGE REEDY HAS BEEN
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PAGE 03 JAKART 15245 101044Z

COVERED EXTENSIVELY BEFORE AND DURING HIS PROGRAM IN INDONESIA
(FULL REPORT NEXT WEEK BUT VISIT GOING VERY WELL TO DATE).
"SINAR HARAPAN" WHICH GENERALLY DOES NOT PUBLISH "POLITICAL"
MATERIAL FROM USIS RAN FULL IPS ITEM TITLED "PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS
SEEK CONTROL ARMS SALES." BELIEVE ITEM MANY HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED
BECAUSE IT TRANSLATED BY USIS AND POST PLANS RELEASE MORE SUCH
"BACKGROUNDERS" IN TRANSLATED FORM.

5. AS REPORTED LAST WEEK, AMSPEC BRUCE STAVE, HISTORIAN UNIVERSITY
CONNECTICUT, LECTURED ON URBAN BOSSES AND REFORMERS AND OTHER
ASPECTS AMERICAN CITY LIFE AT UNIVERSITY INDONESIA, JAKARTA, AND
UNIVERSITY GADJAH MADA, YOGYAKARTA, IN SUPPORT POST'S AMERICAN
STUDIES PROGRAM. DISCUSSION PERIODS INDICATED NOT SURPRISINGLY
THAT INDONESIANS ARE MORE INTERESTED IN PROBLEMS OF CONTEMPORARY
AMERICAN SOCIETY OR FUTURE PROSPECTS, RATHER THAN HISTORICAL
ANALYSES, ESPECIALLY IN THOSE SECTORS THAT INTERSECT WITH
INDONESIAN CONCERNS, E.G. BOSSISM ANDREFORM, SUBURBANIZATION,
RELATION OF WELFARE SCHEMES TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. RESPONSE
AT GADJAH MADA, WHICH STILL CONSIDERING INTRODUCTION AMERICAN
STUDIES PROGRAM, ACTUALLY MORE LIVELY AND QUESTIONING MORE ACUTE
THAN AT UNIVERSITY INDONESIA, WHERE PROGRAM ALREADY ESTABLISHED.

6. VOLSPKR JAMES BAKER, FULBRIGHT PROFESSOR AMERICAN STUDIES AT SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, RECEIVED MIXED REVIEWS IN INDONESIA FOR HIS LECTURE "JIMMY CARTER AND INTERNATIONAL MORALITY." BNC AUDIENCES IN MEDAN AND JAKARTA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR BAKER'S CANDOR IN DESCRIBING POLITICAL, HISTORICAL AND RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND OF CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS STANCES, AS WELL AS SUPPORT FOR HIS INITIATIVES. USIS SURABAYA, HOWEVER, THOUGHT THAT BAKER'S REMARKS ON CARTER'S DECLINING POPULARITY AND DISAPPOINTMENT AMONG HIS SUPPORTERS LEFT OVERLY NEGATIVE EFFECT ON AUDIENCE OF JOURNALISTS AND STUDENTS. IN PROGRAM FOR FACULTY MEMBERS AND STUDENT AT INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BANDUNG, BAKER ALSO MAY HAVE OVERSTRESSED MACHIAVELLIAN TACTICS AND POLITICAL CYNICISM OF CARTER'S SUCCESSFUL PRESIDENTIAL BID IN OTHERWISE ENLIGHTENING DESCRIPTION OF U.S. NATIONAL POLITICS.

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PAGE 04 JAKART 15245 101044Z

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Message Attributes

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